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the Secretary, has specific duties, responsibilities, and authorities pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, Pub. L. No. 95–452, 5 U.S.C. App.

(b) The following authority is reserved to the Secretary of Agriculture: Approving the implementation in the Office of Inspector General of administrative policies or procedures that contravene standard USDA administrative policies as promulgated by the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[60 FR 56393, Nov. 8, 1995, as amended at 72 FR 36859, July 6, 2007]

§ 2.34 Director, National Appeals Division.

The Director, National Appeals Division, under the general supervision of the Secretary, has specific duties, responsibilities, and authorities pursuant to subtitle H of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103–354, title II (7 U.S.C. 6991 et seq.), including:

- (a) Deciding appeals from adverse decisions, made by an officer or employee of an agency of the Department designated by the Secretary, that are adverse to participants. The term "agency" shall include the following and any predecessor agency: the Farm Service Agency; the Commodity Credit Corporation (with respect to domestic programs); the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation; the Rural Housing Service; the Rural Business-Cooperative Service; the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and a State, county, or area committee established under section 8(b)(5) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590h(b)(5)); and
- (b) The authority to appoint such hearing officers and other employees as are necessary for the administration of the activities of the Division.
- (c) Prepare a report each year on the number of requests for equitable relief and the disposition of such requests for inclusion in the report of the Secretary to Congress on equitable relief requests made to the Department under farm and conservation programs (7 U.S.C. 7996(g)(2).

[60 FR 56393, Nov. 8, 1995, as amended at 68 FR 27442, May 20, 2003]

§ 2.35 Judicial Officer.

- (a) Pursuant to the Act of April 4, 1940, as amended (7 U.S.C. 450c-450g), and Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953 (5 U.S.C. app.), the Secretary of Agriculture makes the following delegations of authority to the Judicial Officer. The Judicial Officer is authorized to:
- (1) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings subject to 5 U.S.C. 556 and 557;
- (2) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings which are or may be subject to the "Rules of Practice Governing Formal Adjudicatory Proceedings Instituted by the Secretary Under Various Statutes" set forth in part 1, subpart H, of this title;
- (3) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings which are or may be subject to the "Rules of Practice Governing Cease and Desist Proceedings Under Section 2 of the Capper-Volstead Act" set forth in part 1, subpart I, of this title;
- (4) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings subject to the "Procedures Related to Administrative Hearings Under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986" set forth in part 1, subpart L, of this title;
- (5) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings subject to the "Rules of Practice Governing Adjudication of Sourcing Area Applications and Formal Review of Sourcing Areas Pursuant to the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 620, et seq.)" set forth in part 1, subpart M, of this title:
- (6) Act as final deciding officer in rate proceedings under the Packers and Stockyards Act, as amended and supplemented (7 U.S.C. 181–229);
- (7) Act as final deciding officer in reparation proceedings under statutes administered by the United States Department of Agriculture;
- (8) Act as final deciding officer in appeals under section 63 of the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 2443), and in reexamination proceedings under section 91 of the Plant Variety Protection Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2501);
- (9) Act as final deciding officer in adjudicatory proceedings under section 359i of the Agricultural Adjustment